

REMARKS

Claims 1-26 were submitted for examination. Claims 1-26 have been rejected. Claims 1, 2, 3, 8, 10 and 19 have been amended. Claims 4, 5, 23 and 24 have been cancelled.

Reconsideration and reexamination of the above-referenced patent application is respectfully requested.

Status of Claims

Claims 1, 4, 9, 10, 13-19, 22-26 have been rejected by the Examiner under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by U.S. Patent No. 5,854,661 to Gregory Kochanski ("Kochanski"). Claims 2, 3, 5-8, 11, 12, 20 and 21 have been rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Kochanski in view of U.S. Patent No. 5,952,992 to Frank P. Helms ("Helms").

102(b) Rejection – Kochanski

Independent claim 1 recites in part:

"a camera; and

a display screen, a brightness of which is to be adjusted within pre-defined limits in response to measured ambient light wherein said ambient light is measured by analyzing one or more images produced by the camera to determine a position of a user if the user is present and the ambient light in a vicinity of the user."

(Emphasis added).

Kochanski teaches a system to eliminate or subtract undesirable reflection images on a display screen caused by proximately located light sources. The system first locates the reflection images on the display screen and then eliminates these images by adjusting the brightness values of the reflection

images' pixels. (Abstract) (Emphasis added). The system includes a camera and estimates the brightness of the reflection that appears on each associated pixel. It then eliminates reflection images by adjusting the brightness value of each pixel on which a portion of the reflection images appears. The control unit acquires, through the camera, a raw image of the camera field of view... stores a copy of the raw image... derives the angular positions and angular sizes of all relevant objects capable of causing reflection images present therein. (Col. 3, line 58 to col. 4, line 3). The system then causes the display control unit to adjust the brightness of one or more of the display pixels at the first set of pixel locations to remove the pixels reflected image component from at least a portion of the pixels.

Kochanski, however, does not teach how much the brightness is adjusted. More specifically, Kochanski does not teach adjusting the brightness within predefined limits, as claimed in claim 1.

Applicants submit that, at least for one or more of the above reasons, claim 1 is not anticipated by Kochanski and that the 102(b) rejection has been overcome.

Since claims 2-3 and 6-9 depend from and further limit claim 1, applicants submit that claims 2-3 and 6-9 are also patentable over Kochanski.

Applicants further submit that, at least for the above reason, independent claims 10 and 19 and their corresponding dependent claims are also patentable over Kochanski.

103(a) Rejection – Kochanski in view of Helms

Helms teaches a system having a photo detector and a liquid crystal display (LCD) panel having a backlight. Although Helms teaches brightness control, Helms does not teach a system having a camera nor does Helms teach

a display whose pixel brightness can be controlled. A photo-detector may not be as accurate as a camera in determining ambient light in a vicinity of a user. Thus, applicants submit that there is no motivation to combine Helms with Kochanski because of the differences in technologies used.

Furthermore, even if Helms is combined with Kochanski, the combination does not teach the limitation that the brightness of the display is adjusted within pre-defined limits, as claimed in claim 1, 10 and 19.

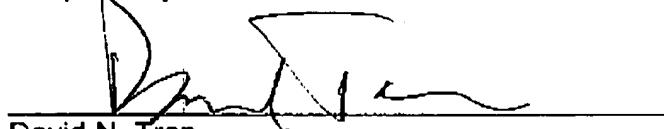
Applicants submit that the 103(b) rejection has been overcome, and that all rejected claims are patentable over Kochanski in view of Helms.

CONCLUSION

Applicants respectfully submit the present application is in condition for allowance. If the Examiner believes a telephone conference would expedite or assist in the allowance of the present application, the Examiner is invited to call David Tran at (408) 765-4692.

Authorization is hereby given to charge our Deposit Account No. 50-0221 for any charges that may be due.

Respectfully submitted,



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